

Prayer Matters

Please keep in your prayers:

World Press Freedom Day - 3 May

For those countries where the press is restrained from reporting freely; and that in other countries the press behave responsibly, fairly, and without harassment of those in distress.

India - Coronavirus

That aid will come quickly to help India cope with the crisis; for those suffering from the virus; those who have lost loved ones; the health services struggling to cope and the government to bring in measures to bring it under control.

Elections taking place on Thursday

For the candidates offering to serve; that people will vote wisely; that in London, the Mayor and Assembly members elected will be given wisdom and courage to make the right choices for our great city.

Those persecuted because of race, religion or political ideals

For those throughout the world who face persecution because of their race, religion or political views, in particular we pray for people in China, Hong Kong, Myanmar and the Middle East; we also pray for an end to institutional racism in our own country.

Commemorated on 4 May - English Saints & Martyrs of the Reformation

This day is set aside to remember all who witnessed to their Christian faith during the conflicts in church and state in England, which lasted from the

fourteenth to the seventeenth centuries but were at their most intense in the sixteenth century. Though the reform movement was aimed chiefly at the Papacy, many Christian men and women of holiness suffered for their allegiance to what they believed to be the truth of the gospel. As the movement grew in strength, it suffered its own internecine struggles, with one group determined that they were the keepers of truth and that all others were therefore at least in a state of ignorance and at worst heretical. In the twentieth century, ecumenical links drew the churches closer to each other in faith and worship and all now recognise both the good and evil that evolved from the Reformation Era.

Charity of the Week: The Mothers' Union - Christian Care for Families Worldwide

Through prayer and action Mothers' Union members are committed to seeking to build a future free of poverty, violence and injustice. They work throughout the world fighting gender-based violence, inequality, and injustice; encouraging women to achieve financial independence and business success to support their families; parenting courses lead to better family relationships. Their aim is to stand alongside people during crises in life. This year's Summer of Hope Campaign is to rebuild hope and confidence to create a world where everyone can thrive. mothersunion.org.

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Those who are sick or in need

Ruth Kirk Wilson, Robert Shafto, Peter Raistick, Pat Raistick, Georgina Cooke and Margaret Legg. and any others known to us; for those who support and care for them.

Those with longer term needs

Simon Berlyn, Rosemary Cave, Lorraine Falzon Gaughan, Hyacinth Brown, Wisdom Kari Kari, Anthony Backs, Isabelle Backs, Do Jones, Chris Worden, and Gina Vaughan.

Those who have died recently

The many deaths from the coronavirus in India, any others known to us and for all who mourn the death of loved ones.

Those whose Year's Mind falls at this time

Jack Foreman-Peck, Colin Ivor Newport (Snr.), Dorothy Dudding and Audrey June Morby.

Thought for the week

God's door is always open. The kettle is always on. The beers are in the fridge. The champagne is on ice. And someone has been sent out with a very large order for curry. God is scanning the horizon for our return.

The Most Revd Stephen Cottrell,
Archbishop of York.

From the Diocese of Southwark,
Discipleship News, April 2021.

If you would like prayer for yourself or another, please contact Diane Pacitti
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